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amnesty international

INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIAT
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URGENT ACTION

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

AI Index: 21/25/92
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UA 403/92 Legal concern/Fear of torture

18 December 1992

INDONESIA/EAST TIMOR:

Arrested in Manatuto:
Apisa (35), policeman, arrested 15 November
Candido (29), Head of Agriculture Office, Manatuto, arrested 14 November
Eduardo (30), businessman, arrested 14 November
Felipe (30), hospital administrator, Manatuto, arrested 14 November
Geraldo (28), businessman, arrested 14 November
João (45), village head of Kai Rui, arrested 13 November
João Faria (30), civil servant, arrested 14 November
Kancio (50), businessman, arrested 15 November
Manuel Constancio (27), civil servant, arrested 13 November
Manuel de Costa (45), civil servant, arrested 14 November
Mario Santa (33), civil servant, arrested 14 November
Serilo (27), civil servant, arrested 15 November
Tomas de Rosario Cabral (25), civil servant, arrested 5 December
Vicente (50), nurse, Manatuto hospital, arrested 14 November
Vitor (50), nurse, Manatuto hospital, arrested 11 November

Arrested in Dili:
Arnaldo Borges (17) arrested October
Constancio Guterres (37), Armed Forces member, arrested 22 November
Leandro Isaac (45) and
Manuel Isaac (42), brothers, civil servants, arrested 22 November
Manuel Mercario (47), nurse, arrested 22 November
Maria Lourdes Alves Araujo (female), (36) and her husband
Octavio Jordão de Araujo (42), arrested 18 December

Arrested in Same:
Elsa (female), arrested 15 November
Graciana (female), arrested 15 November
Luis, arrested 15 November

Amnesty International is urgently concerned for the safety of the 25 people named above. Those arrested are among at least 60, and possibly many more, people arrested in East Timor since early November 1992. The 25 were reportedly arrested in Manatuto and Same districts and in East Timor's capital, Dili. The precise whereabouts of the 25 are not known, but they are believed to be detained in military detention centres in the towns of Baucau, Same and Dili. Those arrested are at risk of torture and ill-treatment by the Indonesian security forces. There have also been unconfirmed reports that 17 relatives of Constancio Pinto, an East Timorese activist now living in Portugal, were arrested on 25 November 1992 in Dili and there are fears they too may be at risk of torture.

Serious human rights violations, including arbitrary arrest, torture, "disappearance" and possible extrajudicial execution, have accompanied a recent crackdown by Indonesian forces in East Timor. The increased repression has coincided with the anniversary of the November 1991 Santa Cruz massacre and the 20 November capture of Xanana Gusmão, leader of the East Timorese resistance movement (see UA 366/92, ASA 21/17/92 of 23 November 1992 and UA 367/92, ASA 21/18/92 of 23 November 1992 and follow ups). The crackdown has been particularly severe in Manatuto, Xanana's home district, in Dili and in the districts of Lospalos, and Viqueque.

Hundreds of people were reportedly rounded up in mid-November and dozens are thought to remain in detention, most of them held incommunicado. At least one of those arrested after Xanana's capture is feared to have died as a result of torture. In December,

☎ (44)(71) 413 5500 Telegrams: Amnesty London WC1 Telex: 28502 FAX: 956 1157

Amnesty International is an independent worldwide movement working for the international protection of human rights. It seeks the *release* of men and women detained anywhere because of their beliefs, colour, sex, ethnic origin, language or religious creed, provided they have not used or advocated violence. These are termed *prisoners of conscience.* It works for *fair and prompt trials* for *all political prisoners* and works on behalf of such people detained without charge or trial. It opposes the *death penalty* and *torture* or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment of *all prisoners.*

residents of East Timor appealed to Amnesty International to publish the names of those arrested in order to protect them and their families from further human rights violations by the Indonesian security forces.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Indonesian forces invaded East Timor in 1975 in the aftermath of Portugal's withdrawal from its former colony. Since that time Amnesty International has continued to document serious human rights violations by Indonesian security forces in the territory, including extrajudicial execution, torture and ill-treatment, "disappearance" and political imprisonment.

In November 1991 more than 100 people were killed, and many others "disappeared", after Indonesian soldiers opened fire on a peaceful procession at the Santa Cruz cemetery in Dili. The human rights situation has not improved in the year since the massacre. Hundreds of people have been subjected to death threats, beatings and arbitrary arrest and at least 13 East Timorese have been sentenced, at unfair trials, to long terms of imprisonment after being accused of organizing the Santa Cruz procession and other peaceful protest marches.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes/express and airmail letters either in English or in your own language:

- expressing concern for the safety of the 25 people named above arrested between October and December 1992 in East Timor and seeking clarification of their whereabouts;
- urging that representatives of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), lawyers, relatives and doctors be granted immediate an unconditional access to their place of detention;
- seeking assurances that all the detainees will be accompanied by a lawyer of their own choice while being interrogated, as required by Indonesian law;
- urging the government to release immediately and unconditionally all those detained solely for their peaceful political views or activities.

APPEALS TO

1. Brig Gen Theo Syafei
PANKOLAKOPS
Markas Besar KOLAKOPS/KOREM 164
Dili, East Timor
Indonesia
Telegrams: Brig Gen Syafei, Dili, East Timor, Indonesia

Salutation: Dear Brig Gen Syafei

2. Maj Gen Suwardi
Markas Besar, KODAM IX/Udayana,
Denpasar
Bali, Indonesia
Telegrams: Maj Gen Suwardi, Kodam IX, Denpasar, Bali, Indonesia

Salutation: Dear Maj Gen Suwardi

3. General Try Sutrisno
Commander of the Armed Forces
Markas Besar ABRI
Cilangkap, East Jakarta
Indonesia
Telegrams: Gen Try Sutrisno, Markas Besar ABRI, Jakarta, Indonesia
Faxes: + 62 21 36 1471 (Armed Forces HQ); + 62 21 37 8144 (Army HQ); + 62 21 35 6404

Salutation: Dear General Try

4. Ali Alatas
Minister of Foreign Affairs
Kementerian Luar Negeri
Jl. Taman Pejambon 6
Jakarta
Indonesia
Telegrams: Minister Foreign Affairs, Jakarta, Indonesia
Faxes: + 62 21 36 7781
+ 62 21 36 7782

Salutation: Dear Minister Alatas

COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:

Indonesian Legal Aid Foundation (LBH)
Jl. Diponegoro 74
Jakarta 10320
Indonesia

and to diplomatic representatives of Indonesia accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 29 January 1993.

— Please take action as soon as you receive this Urgent Action appeal. Carefully read the recommended actions. If possible, send a telegram, telex, fax or express letter immediately to one or more of the addresses given. Other letters can be sent afterwards.

— Telegrams and letters should be brief and courteous. Stress that your concern for human rights is not in any way politically partisan. Refer to relevant provisions in international law, such as the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights:

Article 3 — "Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person."

Article 5 — "No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment."

Article 9 — "No one shall be subjected to arbitrary arrest, detention or exile."

— The name of Amnesty International may be used, although letters written in a private or personal capacity may be more effective.

— Copies of appeals should be sent to relevant diplomatic representatives in your country.

— In Urgent Actions cases, Amnesty International has to act rapidly on behalf of victims of grave human rights violations. An appeal is issued when Amnesty International believes it has received reliable and accurate information in such cases. It is not always possible to verify all details independently and in some instances the situation outlined in the appeal may change. Urgent Action participants are always notified of any significant new facts.

— Copies of any replies received from government authorities should be sent immediately to your section's Urgent Action co-ordinator or direct to the Campaign and Membership Department of the International Secretariat. If appropriate, thank the official who has replied and ask to be kept informed about the case.